

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize institutions that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize the Ralls County Courthouse, which is being honored on its sesquicentennial by the citizens of Ralls County with a series of events scheduled for July 22 to July 27, 2008, in New London, Missouri; and

Whereas, built in 1858, the Ralls County Courthouse is one of the oldest continuously operating courthouses west of the Mississippi River; and

Whereas, the Ralls County Courthouse is one of only two courthouses built in the Greek Revival architectural style still in use in Missouri; and

Whereas, while the Courthouse fundamentally remains as it was built in 1858, in 1938, a two-story addition was built at the rear of the Courthouse using stone from a demolished bridge crossing the Salt River; and

Whereas, in 2004, county voters approved a bond issue permitting a \$2.45 million renovation of the beautiful, historic structure; and

Whereas, among the Ralls County Courthouse's many notable features are a World War I cannon on the grounds and the courtroom's wood floors and pew-style seating; and

Whereas, the events scheduled for the July celebration include a parade, baby contest, queen contest, tractor show, antique tractor pull, horse pull, banquet, car show, all-church choir performing a patriotic musical, quilt show, spelling bee, and a concert by Leroy Van Dyke and Ralls County native Helen Cornelius:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our most sincere congratulations to the citizens of Ralls County on the illustrious occasion of the 150th anniversary of its county courthouse, with our very best wishes for continued success; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Ralls County Courthouse.

Offered by _____
Representative Rachel Bringer
District No. 6

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3644, adopted July 21, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker